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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE TO OFFER ASSISTANCE DURING SEQUESTER

(MIAMI, March 4, 2013) — As the nation braces for sequestration cuts, the South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB) will continue to assist impacted job seekers and businesses.

Congress plans to impose furloughs amounting to across-the-board pay cuts, or cost-saving measures that may result in short or long-term unemployment for certain individuals in the region. With very little recourse, small businesses including subcontractors, suppliers and vendors linked to contracts with large scale businesses' may be terminated or scaled back.

SFWIB is an integral part of Florida's workforce system and will coordinate with Workforce Florida, Inc. and the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) to provide employment assistance to individuals and employers. In addition, DEO is responsible for distributing Reemployment Assistance benefits and will continue to process and assist with eligible claims.

"We recognize the severe impacts the sequestration budget cuts will have on the regional economy. South Florida Workforce is uniquely positioned to provide assistance that will safeguard the interests of businesses and residents in the region," said Rick Beasley, executive director of the South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

SFWIB has an established workforce system that offers job seekers employment and training services at no cost. Many services are provided online at www.EmployFlorida.com, in addition to direct service delivery through 14 Career Centers in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

The agency's Business Services offers viable solutions that enable businesses to remain competitive during on-going challenges presented in this economic climate. Some of the incentives offered by SFWIB and its partners include assistance with the costs of hiring new employees and training their existing workforce.

About South Florida Workforce Investment Board

South Florida Workforce is a public-private partnership and integral partner in Miami-Dade's economic plan that initiates state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Additionally, South Florida Workforce services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of Career Centers located throughout the region.

For more information on how the sequestration may impact Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, contact South Florida Workforce Investment Board at 305.594.7615. Find the nearest Career Center

<http://www.southfloridaworkforce.com/w/locationsCareerCenter.html>

www.floridajobs.org/federalsequestration

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